

Message Text

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ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 SOE-02 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00
COME-00 DODE-00 DOE-11 H-01 INR-10 INT-05 L-03
NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-05 USIA-06 OES-07 SP-02
SS-15 STR-07 TRSE-00 ACDA-12 /117 W
-----087465 130850Z /13

R 130547Z MAR 78
FM AMEMBASSY AMMAN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5403
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

C O N F I D E N T I A L AMMAN 2381

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PEPR, ENRG, JO, IS
SUBJECT: SEISMIC STUDIES IN THE DEAD SEA

1. FILON EXPLORATION CORPORATION, WHICH HAS CONDUCTED SEISMIC STUDIES IN NORTHERN JORDAN, AND IS NOW DRILLING TEST HOLE FOR OIL AT THAT LOCATION, INTENDS TO BEGIN SEISMIC WORK IN DEAD SEA IN NEAR FUTURE. FILON OFFICIAL DESIRES THAT APPROPRIATE GOI OFFICIALS BE NOTIFIED INFORMALLY AND IN CONFIDENCE OF FILON PLANS TO CONDUCT SEISMIC SURVEY IN DEAD SEA SO THAT FILON ACTIVITY IS NOT MISUNDERSTOOD BY ISRAELIS. UNLESS DEPARTMENT OR TEL AVIV PERCEIVES OBJECTION, REQUEST TEL AVIV PASS INFORMATION CONTAINED PARAGRAPH #2 INFORMALLY TO APPROPRIATE GOI OFFICIALS AND ADVISE EMBASSY SO WE CAN INFORM FILON.

2. FILON SEISMIC WORK WILL COMMENCE AROUND 18-19 MARCH AND CONTINUE FOR APPROXIMATELY SEVEN WEEKS. INDIVIDUAL 10 KILOGRAM CHARGES OF DYNAMITE WILL BE USED. EXPLOSIONS SHOULD NOT BE AUDIBLE ON ISRAELI SIDE OF DEAD SEA, BUT WATER GEYSERS (CHARGES WILL BE AT APPROXIMATE 10 METER DEPTHS) MAY BE VISIBLE, AND ANY MOVEMENT DETECTION EQUIPMENT ISRAELIS HAVE
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IN AREA MAY RECORD DETONATIONS. PLACEMENT AND RETRIEVAL OF GEOPHONES WILL, OF COURSE, ALSO BE VISIBLE. SEISMIC WORK IS TO TAKE PLACE IN FOLLOWING AREA: FROM 58,000 TO 72,000 NORTH ON THE "PALESTINIAN GRID" AND FROM ABOUT 200 METERS EAST OF THE TRUCE LINE TO JORDANIAN SHORE. AREA COVERS MOST OF SOUTH BASIN OF DEAD SEA (SOUTH OF THE LISSAN PENINSULA)

JUST TO EAST OF SALT PANS OF THE DEAD SEA POTASH WORKS
AND INCLUDES AREA INTENDED TO BE DIKED BY ARAB POTASH
COMPANY. PICKERING

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NNN

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